GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5007
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2002
SMUGGLING OF NARCOTICS
CHARAN DAS MAHANT;MOHAN RAWALE

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a): whether after fall of Taliban Rule in Afghanistan, Delhi and Haryana have become the hub of `NARCOTICS` ;

(b) : whether `NARCOTICS` worth crores of rupees has been seized in Delhi and Haryana recently ;

(c) : if so, the number of the culprits nabbed and penalized in this connection ; and

(d) : the details of the stern action taken by the Government to uproot the menace of ` NARCOTICS` trade ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN)

(a): The proximity to the international border and good air-linkage with other countries makes Delhi and its neighboring State Haryana vulnerable to drug trafficking, which is a clandestine activity. Seizure of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances during 2002 as compared with those in the previous years in Delhi and Haryana, as reported by various drug lawenforcement agencies, do not indicate increasing trend.

(b): During 2002 (upto March) , as reported by various Drug LawEnforcement Agencies, 15.80 kgs of Opium, 21.76 kgs ofHeroin, 32.75 kgs of Ganja and 36.99 kgs of Hashish have been seized inDelhi and 41.48 kgs of Opium, 0.04 kgs ofHeroin, 6.80 kgs of Ganja and 13.87 kgs of Hashish have been seized in Haryana. All confiscated narcotics are liable to be destroyed and no authentic market value exists. Hence valuation of the above mentioned seized narcotics is not possible.

(c) : The total number of persons arrested for drug trafficking in Delhi and Haryana during the year 2002 (upto March), as reported by the various Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, is 118 and 60 respectively. All the arrested persons are liable to be prosecuted and punished under the provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985.

(d) : The Government of India has taken a number of steps to prevent and put effective check on drug trafficking. Theseinclude instructions to all drug enforcement agencies to maintain utmost vigil and step up enforcement efforts, training to officers, fencing and flood lighting of Indo-Pak border, vesting of powers in the Border Security Force and Coast Guards under the Customs Act to interdict narcotic drugs, notifying certain precursor chemicals, viz., Acetic Anhydride, Ephedrine etc. as `Controlled Substances` under the NDPS Act, quarterly coordination meetings by the Narcotics Control Bureau with all Central and State Agencies concerned, holding of periodic bilateral meetings of Indian and Pakistani anti-narcotics agencies, holding of operational level meetings with Myanmar officials and providing some assistance to Myanmar.